

CLAIMS

1. An electronic device comprising mounting means for loading a portable recording medium and encrypted information write means for encrypting predetermined information using an encryption key unique to the electronic device and writing the encrypted information in the recording medium,

characterized by further comprising:

encrypted information read means for reading the encrypted information recorded in the recording medium in the case where the recording medium is loaded in the mounting means;

decryption execution means for executing the decryption of the encrypted information using the encryption key; and

control means for setting the electronic device in usable mode in the case where the encrypted information is decrypted by the decryption execution means.

2. The electronic device as set forth in claim 1, characterized by further comprising a volatile memory for holding the information, and

load request means for determining whether the memory is in the information holding mode in the case where power is supplied to the electronic device with the recording medium not loaded in the mounting means, and in the case where the memory is not in the information holding mode, prompting the user to load the recording medium.

3. The electronic device as set forth in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the control means determines whether the information obtained by decrypting the encrypted information and the preset information coincide with each other, and in the case where they coincide with each other, sets the electronic device in usable mode.

4. The electronic device as set forth in claim 1 or 2, characterized by further comprising alarm means for outputting an alarm in the case where the encrypted information is not decrypted by the decryption execution means.

5. A method of controlling an electronic device comprising mounting means for loading a portable recording medium and encrypted information write means for encrypting predetermined information using an encryption key unique to the electronic device and writing the encrypted information in the recording medium,

characterized by comprising the steps of:

reading the encrypted information recorded in the recording medium in the case where the recording medium is loaded in the mounting means;

executing the decryption of the encrypted information using the encryption key; and

setting the electronic device in usable mode in the case

where the encrypted information is decrypted by the decryption execution means.

6. A security program characterized in that a computer included in an electronic device comprising mounting means for loading a portable recording medium and encrypted information write means for encrypting predetermined information using an encryption key unique to the electronic device and writing the encrypted information in the recording medium is caused to function in such a way that

the encrypted information recorded in the recording medium is read in the case where the recording medium is loaded in the mounting means;

the decryption of the encrypted information is executed using the encryption key; and

the electronic device is set in usable mode in the case where the encrypted information is decrypted by the decryption execution means.

7. A recording medium characterized in that the security program described in claim 6 is recorded in a computer readable form.